

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 5, second occurrence, without prejudice.

Add Claim 13 as follows:

AI --13. A process as claimed in claim 4 wherein the Throntons medium comprises of the following ingredients in g/L: K_2HPO_4 1, KNO_3 0.5, $MgSO_4$ 0.2, $CaCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ 0.1, asparagine 0.5, mannitol 0.1, $NcCl$ 0.1, $FeCl_3$ 0.01 at pH of 7.4.--

REMARKS

Claim 13 has been added to corrected the numbering of the claims.

This amendment is made to correct an inadvertent typographical error, does not narrow the scope of any claim and was made for a reason unrelated to any statutory concern.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Dated: January 11, 2002

Respectfully submitted,



Adda C. Gogoris

Reg. No. 29,714

Attorney for Applicants

DARBY & DARBY P.C.
805 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
212-527-7700